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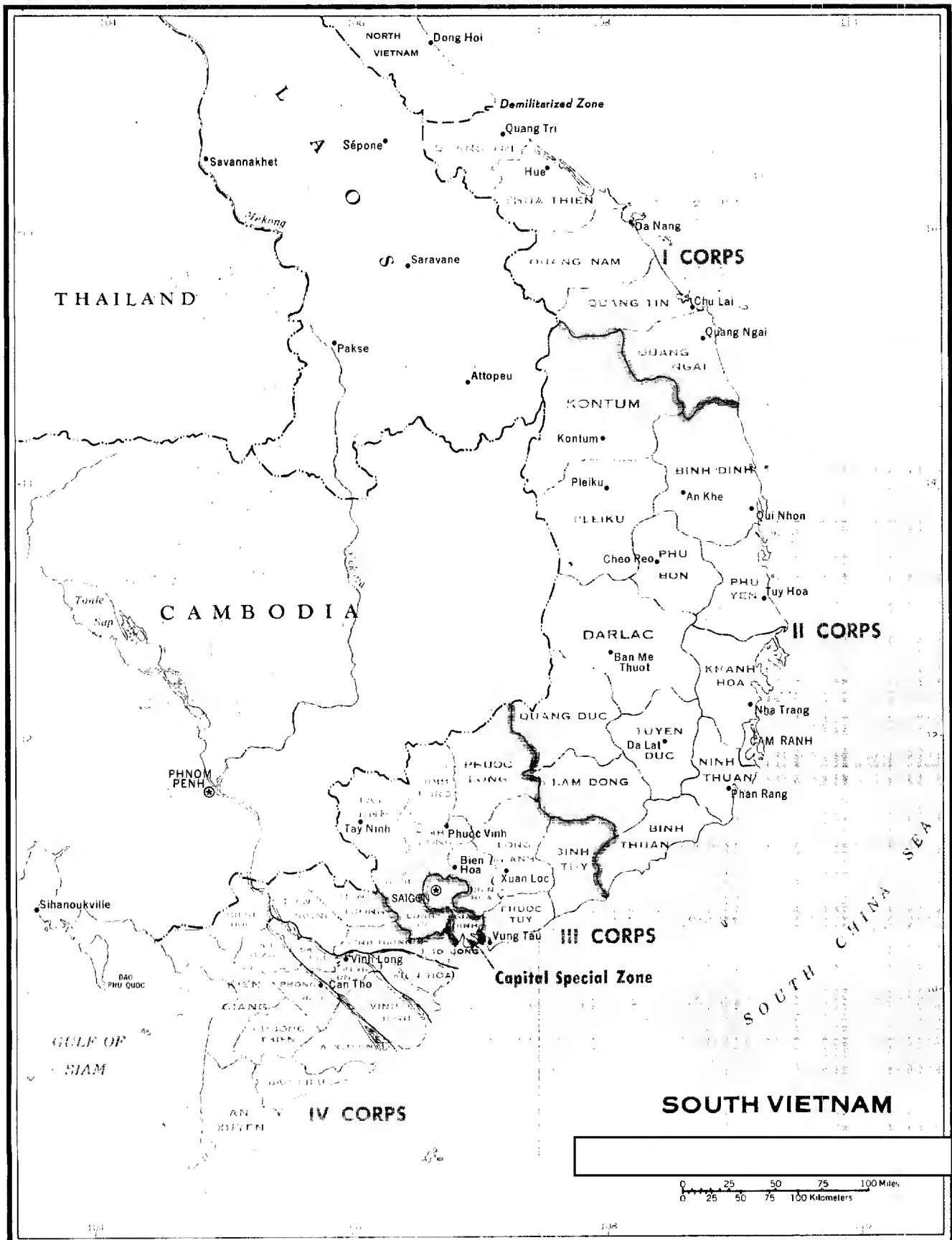
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*Vietnam: (Information as of 4:30 AM EST)

The Military Situation in South Vietnam: Communist efforts to disrupt the government's pacification program continue to intensify at a rapid pace.

Nearly 200 enemy attacks against Revolutionary Development (RD) teams have been reported during the first quarter of 1967. Of these, 105 occurred during the period 1-26 March.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] captured documents, and prisoner and defector interrogations--have stressed the importance to the Viet Cong of combating the RD program. In their counter effort, the Communists have not only stepped up their direct attacks on the teams, but have also increased their propaganda efforts and attempts to intimidate local leaders in areas already pacified.

Shipping to North Vietnam: A preliminary review of Soviet shipping to North Vietnam during the first three months of 1967 shows increased deliveries of commercial cargoes to support the North Vietnamese war effort.

A total of 65,000 tons of petroleum, representing a 25 percent increase over the rate of 1966 shipments, is included in the nearly 220,000 tons of cargo carried thus far this year by Soviet ships. Part of the overall increase results from the rising requirements for foodstuffs. Some 36,000 tons of grain and grain products have been delivered this year in comparison with only 6,000 tons in all of 1966.

Shipments on Chinese Communist and East European ships, which account for a relatively small portion of total Communist deliveries, have also risen.

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Nigeria: Eastern Governor Ojukwu's edict of 31 March on regional control of revenue collection is provoking countermeasures by the federal government.

The edict requires federal revenue collectors in the East to pass all payments directly to the Eastern government rather than to the federal account. It does not, however, alter the existing formula for allocating revenues among the regions and the central government. Moreover, the limitation of the edict to revenues collected in the East excludes the important oil revenues, most of which are paid in London to the federal account.

Supreme Commander Gowon has blasted the Eastern edict as "unconstitutional." The federal government is apparently directing private companies which now pay fees and taxes to Eastern offices of various federal authorities to make their payments in Lagos. Federal economic advisers are also considering the stoppage of salary payments to the police, army, and other federally financed agencies in the East.

There is little likelihood, however, that military governors of the other regions would support really forceful measures against Ojukwu. [REDACTED]

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Chile: President Frei received a setback in Sunday's municipal elections.

Frei had campaigned personally for Christian Democratic (PDC) candidates, and had asked for a vote of confidence in his administration. The PDC, however, got only about 36 percent of the total vote, considerably less than the 42 percent it won in the general elections in 1965. The center-left Radical Party (PR) and the conservative National Party (PN) received 16 percent and 14 percent respectively, stronger showings than anticipated by most observers. The Communist-Socialist Popular Action Front received nearly 30 percent of the vote, as expected. The Communist total was slightly higher than that of the more activist Socialist Party, but the Communists missed their target of becoming the number two party.

The US country team believes that the vote indicates a shift to the left, as well as distaste for Frei's break with the tradition that a Chilean president stay clear of direct involvement in political campaigns. The success of the PN and PR is partly a result of their traditional strength on the local level.

Personalities and circumstances in each municipality probably had a significant effect on the voters. Although the vote cannot be considered a repudiation of Frei's administration, many people who have been hurt economically by his reforms apparently chose this means to protest.

Frei's position at the inter-American summit meeting this month will be weakened. In Chile he will be forced to compromise with other parties to enact his reforms. [REDACTED]

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Greece: National Radical Union leader Kanellopoulos, whose cabinet was sworn in last night, will seek a parliamentary vote of confidence next week. Present prospects for approval of his strongly right-wing cabinet appear slim. The King has authorized Kanellopoulos to dissolve Parliament if necessary and prepare for elections within 45 days. Center Union leader George Papandreou, who is insisting that the elections be carried out by an "impartial" premier, will strongly oppose this action.



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